



**City of Rockville  
Department of Recreation and Parks**

**ATHLETIC FIELD  
CONDITION, MAINTENANCE AND CLOSURE POLICY**

The City of Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks will make every attempt to allow play of all athletic games when and where they are scheduled. The City or affiliate groups will comply with the following guidelines concerning athletic field use during and after inclement weather, when play could cause damage and/or affect the future use of an athletic field or subject athletes to a possible injurious situation.

In order to ensure safe athletic field use, the following criteria will be considered to determine if a game or practice will be postponed or cancelled:

- First sighting of lightning and/or thunder as witnessed by the official and/or site supervisor. (Persons should immediately seek lightning shelters, maintenance buildings and/or automobiles.)
- Standing water on any part of the playing surface.
- One-half inch of rain or more has fallen in the last 24 hours.
- Two inches of snow or more has fallen in the last 24 hours.
- Playing area of field is icy or frozen.
- Ground clings or cakes to shoes or cleats.
- Steady rain is falling.
- Playing area of field does not provide adequate footing.
- Potential of severe playing surface damage.

If any of the above conditions are in existence at the time of scheduled field use, that game or practice shall be postponed or cancelled. The responsibility for postponing a game or practice prior to its scheduled time rests with the Athletic Fields Section of the Parks and Facilities Maintenance Division or, if not available, the Sports Division. Decisions will be made on a field-by-field basis no later than one-half hour prior to a game or practice time. The scheduled official has responsibility for determining the playability of the field he/she is assigned to at game time. All athletic fields shall be closed annually from approximately December 1 to on or about March 15 for maintenance and repairs.